coived. It is considered a guificantly Unionist and

Doorkeeper, Sergeant-at-Arms and Postmaster were put through with due formality by a vira roce vote, the tediousess of which was relieved. put through with due formality by a viva roce vote, the tedicumess of which was relieved only by a three tedicumess of which was relieved only by a three tedicumess of Tennessee rose, and with laugh when Mr. Jones of Tennessee rose, and with most explicit emphasis of pronunciation, said: "Mr. Speaker, I nominate for Clerk of the House "Mr. Speaker, I nominate for Clerk of the House "Mr. Speaker, I nominate for Clerk of the House "Mr. Jones did not take. He repeated his motion, and amid general laughter, Mr. Jeens C. Allen was the forward as nominated for Clerk."

put forward as nominated for Clerk.

After selecting its officers, from Speaker to Postmaster, the House, at 34 o'clock, adjourned. During the last hour of its proceedings, Mr. Sumner was in the House—the Senate having adjourned—and was warmly greeted by his friends and acquaintances. He seems to be in good health and excellent spirits. He has taken lodgings on F street, between Fourteenth and Fifteenth, just behind Willard's

The fiery speech recently made by Gen. Lane in Karsas makes out Southern go understand. . is a sort of talk they can and by, what their project of Africanizing and en slaving the continent is leading to. They are driving the country to the verge of civil war, and yet they are among that men begin to talk of blood. It is to be hoped that they will pause in time, ere it become teo late.

THE DESIGNS OF BRIGHAM YOUNG.

Correspondence of The Pennsylvania Inquirer.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7, 1857. Washington, Dec. 7, 1857.

A recent interview with Mr. Bernnisel, the delegate from Utab, has enlightened me to some extent as to the designs of Brigham Young. Although this venerable patriarch is rather non-committal, yet an idea or hint occasionally slips from him, on which reasonable pre sumption may be predicated. It appears certain that the Mornous have in reserve, as a final place of retreat, a settlement on the borders of Upper California, which, by their arrangements with some of the Indian inbes, they will be able to hold against Mexico, and which is beyond the jurisdiction of the United States. Young has used his powers as Indian Agent to curry favor with these tribes, and has them under his control. It is not probable that he contemplates a regular battle with the Government troops. He will annoy and impede them in every possible manner, destroy their provisions, aumunition and forage whenever he can lay hands upon it, and wink at assassinaor and impede them in every possible manner, destroy their provisions, aumantiton and forage whenever he can lay hands upon it, and wink at assassinations, ambushes and indiscricate slaughter, whenever accomplished by his own people or their Indian allies. The dare not oppose our army in regular warfare, and he knows that he has placed himself beyond the pale of pardon. He is aware that Urah is no longer a safe residence, but he is determined not to refrest without doing all the mischief he can. As to human life, he is as remorseless as Nero, and teaches his people that it is no sin, but rather mentorious, to kill the Gentiles. His case is desperate, and he is determined to meet it with desperation. Our crusade against the Mormons will undoubtedly result in our resovering possession of the Ferritory of Utah, but at great loss of life and property, while the Saints themselves will gradually mysteriously disappear among the fastnessess of the mountains, to be heard of again in their gregarious condition where they can set us entirely at cellance.

5, Telegraph to The Journal of Commerce.

Washington, Monday, Dec. 7, 1857.

A long interview was held to day between Col. Forrey and the President, relative to Kansas matters.
The President's course turns on the fairness of the
election of the 21st. By Telegraph to The Courier and Enquirer.

By Telegraph to The Courier and Enquirer.

WASHINGTON, Monday, Dec. 7, 1857.

A rumor prevails here that in case the President's Message snatains the Lecorapton Constitution, Gov Walker designs issuing an address to the People of the Union, recommending the Free-State men to resist the efforcement of the Constitution by arms; and that if he is removed by the President, Gov. Walker will immediately return to Kansaa, to join the People's movement. This corresponds with previous private statements of Gov. Walker's declarations. I cannot, however, vouch for the authenticity of the rumor.

Greenondance of The Courier and Enquirer. forrespondence of The Courier and Enquirer

Grespondence of The Courier and Enquirer.

Washington, Dec. 6, 1857.

Mr Parrott arrived here yesterday. He reports the king in Kannas against the Lecompton Constitution a unabated, and as approaching the dangerous extense of civil war. But it is very remarkable that here is but one party in the Territory rotative to the ention of the Convention. It is supported only by a miscrable faction of desperate and violent men, with at property, and rearreine in the Territory. The old Pro-Slavery party, and the National Demonstrate who voted for the Convention in June, and for Ensom in October, repudiate the trick of smuggling as Constitution into Congress as the act of the people, and scout the pretense that even the Slavery bane is submitted to the people, inasmuch as other rate of the instrument provide for the same thing as a section submitted.

section submitted. five. Walker remains in New York. Mr. Parrott alled upon him, and found him firm as when here, in misting upon the right of the people to form their own aganic law. The Governor new takes even stronger grands than he did in Washington. Here he declared that if the outrage were persisted in it would excite a tirll war. He now maintains that it ought to be resisted by force, in which the whole country will certainly sustain him, for if this abomination can be forced upon the people of a Territory, there is an end of lemocracy and Republicanism throughout the Union, and the seoner we adopt the form of a central monarchical tyrarny the better. For it is better to be appressed under a system whose principles are honestly admitted, than under one which professes respect to popular rights.

r popular rights.
I am giad to learn that Gov. Walker proposes speedy return to Kansas, for upon his presence there spends, perhaps, the peaceful continuance of the leritorial Government, the suppression of which is ureatened by Sultan Calhoun and his handful of in-Sendiaries.

The whole Democratic delegation from Illinois, and

all that from Obio except Vallandigham, who contests
Mr. Campbell's seat, sustain Gov. Walker.
I am very glad to learn that the appointment of
Mirabeau B. Lamar, late Minister in Central America,

as not been made, and that there is no likelihood of it.
it. Lamar delays his departure to Buenos Ayres only
util confirmed by the Senate.

MISS KEMBLE'S READINGS. -The qualities of youth ad figure which formerly gave to Miss Fanny Kemad figure which formerly gave to be so many charms upon the stage, have been ex-changed by maturer age into other advantages that beat the lecture-room in a singular manner. Her fatures have obtained the colossal form that distinpishes the Kemble family. In dramatic readings, nch as those to which Mrs. Fanny Kemble now de rotes her ability, the head and arms alone are called ate artistic play. In all that is required, therefore, for these monologue performances, she is as perfect as ever. Last night a most fashionable audience assem-ted to hear her first reading. It was the play of Cymbeline. It is a most ungrateful drama, and be tays, more than perhaps any other, the faults of the peat dramatist. The plot, taken from the Decameron Beccaccio, is treated with Shakespeare's usual recklesaness, not to say clumsiness of construction. The characters, with the exception of Imogen, are drawn without intensity, and the story is one more fitting a sovel than a play. It was with this weak version of thello that Mrs. Kemble had to deal and to those who aderstood the task, it seemed a happy choice, for the amss which lack the elements to produce effect on se stage, are frequently just those calculated to proce effect when read—the intellectual action of see by a play performed and reading it being the reverse feach other. The mind of the spectator is projected thile the mind of the reader or auditor is reflected. We zeed not describe the singular power with which in. Kemble grasps her audience. We presume that il our readers are familiar with her style. She has cet nothing since we heard her in Boston last March, othing that the microscopic eye of criticism can de

But to us she is something more than a great de amatory reader, pose s ed of large intelled usi powers; he represents the sole remaining type of a great school orators and actors. She is the link which joins the sedern, lively, intense, and brisk style of public sech with the more ponderous, lof y, grand, but less atural school of the Kemb'es, the Burkes and the of action and expression that characterize Mr. emble's declamation we are carried back to the heroid a of the stage and the bar. In this regard, her diege porsess another source of pleasure, is addi-

tion to that which she gives by the displey of her gerius.

GRAND ROW AT TAMMANY HALL. DESPERATE FIGHT --- ONE MAN SHOT.

Meeting of the Democratic General Committee

SICKLES AND GUNTHER NOT EXPELLED

THE OUTSIDE MEETING. Tammany Hall was in all its glory last night. It was crowded with the unterrified, a portion of whom smused themselves " according to time horored age

by a free fight. One of the belligerents was shot. The assemblage was drawn together by the meeting of the General Committee, which, it was reported would transact some very interesting and significant business. The fighting men of all the factions were present in strong force, ready and willing to have a hand in, should they find an opportunity for so doing. The probabilities of a fight being immirent, the Me tropolitan Police were summoned, and at 71 o'clock twelve of the Fourth Precinct force, under command of Capt. Walling entered the hall and stationed themselves with drawn batons in the entry way leading to the room in which the Committee was in session. Their presence and the knowledge that a much larger force were within call, had a soothing effect upon the fighters, who deported themselves for a time in a singularly peaceable manner. But the bar was well patronized, and it was soon evident that there must be a fight, particularly as large delegations of well-known " Dead

Rabbits," and shoulder-hitters from other Wards, besides the Sixth, were constantly arriving. Nine o'clock came, and yet no fight But very soon afterward a huge fellow was seen to divest himself of his coat, and a moment thereafter some three or four were struggling desperately on the floor in the center of the bar-room. The timid fled rapidly toward the door, while roughs, rushed in closer, and soon the reports from a pistol were heard, accompanied by the maching of windows, the falling of picture frames, &c. The excitement was intense, and all the doorways were jammed with people trying to escape. The police, by using their clubs swiftly, succeeded in separating the combatants, and after a while completely quelling the disturbance. It was then found that young man named Cornelius Woods had been shot in the shou'der with a slug and badly wounded. His head was also cut severely by one of the policemen whom he resisted while the flicers were quellipy the fight. Woods was taken into the reading-room, where he was attended to by physicians, who were numerous, after which he was conveyed to one of the sleeping apartments of the hotel. His iciuries are not serious.

No arrests were made, and no one seemed able to identify the person who fired the pistol, or to tell whether both shots were fired by the same individual

Fearing a renewal of the disturbance, Capt. Walling sent for his reserve, and also to the Second Precinc Station, from which fourteen mer, under command of Sergeant Verney, were dispatched. In less than ten minutes more than 40 policemen were on the spot, who remained until long after the adjournment of the Committee, when they left, no farther violation of the peace having been attempted.

One of the unterrified was heard to remark that "it was a d-d hard case that Black Republican Metropolitan Policemen should be brought into Tammany 'Hall to club good square Democrats."

WHAT THE GENERAL COMMITTEE DID. The General Committee met at 71 o'clock. There vas a very full attendance. Edward Cooper presided. Some unimportant business having been transacted, the Committee on that subject reported that "the Morange" and not "the Brisley" delegation were the regular delegation from the Ninth Ward. This gave rise to a long debate. The previous question was anally called for and put, and the report of the Committee was declared adopted-49 voting in the affirm ative and 46 in the negative.

The result seemed to displease the Wood men. who still continued to express their disapprobation.

Quiet being at length restored, Corporation Counse Busteed cose and read the following resolutions, and moved their adoption:

Whereas, At the last meeting of the Committee Whereas, At the last meeting of the Committee let-ters from the Hon. Daniel E. Sickles of the Third Ward, and C. Godfrey Gunther, eq., of the Eighteenth Ward, until then members of this Com-mittee, resigning their seats, with certificates in due form of the appointment of other Damocrats as their successors, were presented to one of the Secretaries, whereupon Meesrs. Sickles and Gunther ceased to be members, and the names of the gentlemen appointed as their successors should have been entered upon the roll, according to the regular and established usage in

such cases; and

Whereas, Instead thereof, the letter of Mr. Sickles
was presented and read to the General Committee, in
violation of its usages, and in utter disregard of the
pitciples of fairness and courtesy, for the purpose of
laying the foundation for resolutions to expel Messrs.
Sickles and Gutther, which would otherwise have
been out of order, and could not have been consid-

Whereas, Notwithstanding the fact that Messra

Whereas. Notwithstanding the fact that Mesers. Sickels and Gunther had ceased to be members of this Committee, a resolution was introduced expelling them therefrom, which received the votes of a majority of the members present; and

Whereas, Wilson Small eq., who was then acting as Chairman, in utter violation of the by-laws of this Committee, of the compact by which the present General Committee was formed as a consolidated Committee, representing the entire Democratic party of this city, and of the rights of the several members of this Committee, and in utter disregard of the fact that he, himself, had decided that Mr. Guuther was not a member, and had directed the name of his successor to be entered upon the roll of the Committee, and that successor was then present and voting, declared that the said resolution was adopted, therefore,

Resolved, That the said decision of Wilson Small was a violation of the by laws of this Committee, and of the rights of its members, and is therefore condemned by this Committee.

demned by this Committee.

A terrible commotion at once arose, during which Mr. Busteed loudly advocated the passage of his

Mr. Small defended himself, and retorted in severe anguage, and Mr. Busteed rejoined in the same strain. Others took part in the debate, which was exreedirgly violent. At length the question was put and the resolutions were adopted-Yeas, 51; Nays, 43 The Committee soon afterward adjourned sine die

FIRE IN WEST THIRTY-SECOND STREET. At 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon a fire broke out is he tenement bouse No. 166 West Thirty-second street, but it was soon extinguished by the firemen. The fire originated on the second floor, and was occasioned by children playing with matches. The farm ture was damaged to the amount of \$50 Insured for ture was damaged to the amount of \$00. Itsured for \$200 in the St. Nicholas Insurance Co. The building was occupied by Michael Heins, and was damaged to the amount of \$100. Insured for \$2,000 in the Williamsburgh Insurance Co.

FIRE IN LAURENS STREET.

At 71 o'clock last night a fire occurred in the frame dwelling No. 137 Laurens street, occupied by colored families. A Mrs. Anderson, who occupied the first floor, sustained \$150 damage to the furniture. No insurance. The building was damaged to the amount of

The fire was caused by carelessness in handling

CANCEMI SENTENCED TO DEATH .- The Supreme Court, General Term, yesterday morning overrated the objections raised to its jurisdiction in this case, and Judge Davies passed sentence of death on the prisoner. Exceptions have been taken to the ruling of the Court on the trial, and there will go to the Court of Appeals. Cancemi when asked what he had to ear why sentence should not be passed upon him, replied through an interpreter: "I am it nocent of the charge. All the witnesses perjured themselves; they were hunted up by the police and butchers of this city."

The United Brethren in Ohio have six Conferences d 20,376 members—a gain of 2,200 the past year.

## PUBLIC DOCUMENTS.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

In obedience to the command of the Constitution, it has now become my daty "to give to Congress information of the state of the Union, and recommend 'to their consideration such measures " as I judge to be "necessary and expedient."

But first, and above all, our thanks are due to Almighty God for the numerous benefits which he has bestowed upon this people; and our united prayers ought to second to Him that He would continue to bless our great Republic in time to come as He has blessed it in time past. Since the adjournment of the last Congress our constituents have enjoyed an unusual degree health. The earth has yielded her fruits abundantly, and has bountifully rewarded the toil of the husbandman. Our great steples have commanded high prices, and, up till within a brief period, our manufacturing, mineral and mechanical occupations have largely partaken of the general properity. We have possessed all the elements of material wealth in rich abundance, and yet, not withstanding all these advantages, our country, in its more tary interests, is at the present moment in a deplorable condition. In the midst of unsurpassed plenty in all the productions of agriculture and in all plenty in all the productions of agriculture and in all the elements of national wealth, we find our manufac-tures suspended, our public works retarded, our pri-vate enterprises of different kinds abandoned, and thousands of useful laborers thrown out of employment thousands of useful laborers thrown out of employment and reduced to want. The revenue of the Govern-ment, which is chiefly derived from duties on imports from abroad, has been greatly reduced, while the ap-propriations made by Congress at its last Session for

propriations made by Congress at its last Session for the current fiscal year are very large in amount.

Under these circumstances a loan may be required before the close of your present Session; but this, although deeply to be regretted, would prove it to be only a slight misfortune when compared with the suffering and distress prevailing among the people. With this the Government cannot fail to deeply sympathize, though it may be without the power to extend relief. It is our duty to inquire what has produced such unfortunate results, and whether their recurrence can be prevented? In all former revulsions the blame might have been fairly attributed to a variety of cooperating causes; but not so upon the present occasion. It is apparent that our existing mis ortunes have proceeded solely from our extravagant and vicious system of paper currency and bank credits, exciting the people to wild speculations and gambling in stocks. These revulsions must continue to recur at successive intervals so long as the amount of the paper currency and bank loans and discounts of the country shall be left to the discretion of fourteen hundred irresponsible left to the discretion of fourteen hundred irresponsible banking institutions, which, from the very law of their nature, will consult the interest of their stockholders rather than the public welfare.

The tramers of the Constitution, when they gave to The framers of the Constitution, when they gave to Congress the power "to coin money and to regulate the value thereof," and prohibited the States from coining money, emitting bills of credit, or making anything out gold and silver coin a tender in payment of cebts, supposed they had protected the people against the evils of an excessive and irradeemable paper currency. They are not responsible for the existing anomaly that a government endowed with the sovereign attribute of coining money and regulating the value thereof should have no power to prevent others from criving this coin out of the country and filling up the channels of circulation with paper which does not represent gold and allver.

represent gold and silver.

It is one of the highest and most responsible duties It is one of the highest and most responsible duties of government to insure to the people a sound circulating medium, the amount of which ough to be adapted with the utmost possible wisdom and skill to the wants of internal trade and foreign exchanges. If this be either greatly above or greatly below the proper staudard, the marketable value of every man's property is increased or diminished in the same proportion, and injustice to individuals as well as incalculable evils to the occur units as the consequence.

instice to individuals as well as lacalculable evils to the community are the consequence.
Unfortunately, under the construction of the Federal Constitution, which has now prevailed too long to be changed, this important and delicate duty has been dissevered from the coining power and virtually transferred to more than fourteen hundred State banks, acting independently of each other, and regulating their paper issues almost exclusively by a regard to the present interest of their stockholders. Exercising the experience providing a paper carrency the present interest of annual stockness. The present interesting power of providing a paper carrency instead of coin for the country, the first duty which these banks owe to the public is to keep in their vaults a sufficient amount of gold and silver to insure the convertionity of their notes into coin at all times and under all circumstances. No bank ought ever to be a convertion of the provinces as to the convertion on its business as to chartered without such restriction on its business as t secure this result. All other restrictions are compara-tively vain. This is the only true touchstone, the only tively vain. This is the only true touchstone, the only efficient regulator of a paper currency—the only one which car guard the public against over-issues and bank suspensions. As a collateral and eventual security it is doubtless wire, and in all cases ought to be required, that banks shall hold an amount of United States or State securities equal to their notes in circulation and pledged for their redemption. This however, furnishes no adequate security against overliessuss.

and is ness. They might be continued with advantage are very farmishes no adequate security against oversissues.

On the contrary, it may be perverted to inflate the currency. Indeed, it is possible by this means to convert air the debts of the United States and State Government with the excerases of the banks might afford, without at the same time seffering the calamities which the excerases of the banks have hitherto included into gold and silver at the moment of pressure, as our experience teaches, in sufficient time to converted into gold and silver at the moment of pressure as our experience teaches, in sufficient time to prevent bank suspensions and the depreciation of bank notes. In England, which is to a considerable extent a paper-money country, though varity behind our own in this respect, it was deemed advisable, anterior to the act of Parliament of 1844, which wisely separate the securities of producing the securities and should be continued with advantage and instances to the public.

But this I say, after long and much reflection. It cown to be impossible to enjoy the construction in the sufficient which the excerases of the banks might afford, without at the same time selfering the calamities which well-regulated banks might afford, without at the same time selfering the calamities which well-regulated banks might afford, without at the same time selfering the calamities which the excerases of the banks have hitherto in the converted into gold and silver at the moment of pressure as our experience teaches, in sufficient time to bank suspensions and the depreciation of bank and kindless the converted that two nations are described and our country which I heartly reciprocate. It is, not with the watching in the same time affering the calamities of invite the most extensive exchanges and freest commercial intercourse should continue to enforce ancient and obsolete restrictions of trade against each other. Our relations with the power to issue a paper dependent of the power to issue a paper dependent own in this respect, it was deemed advisable, auterior to the act of Parliament of 1814, which wisely separated the issue of totes from the banking department, for the Bank of England always to keep on hand gold and eliver equal to one third of its combined circulation and deposits. If this proportion was no more than sufficient to secure the convertibility of its notes, with the whole of Great Britain, and to some extent the Continent of Europe, as a field for its circulation, rendering it almost impossible that a suiden and immediate run to a dangerous amount should be made upon it, the same proportion would certainly be instifficient under our fourteen hundred banks has but a limited circumference for its circulation, and in the course

Ea h of our fourteen hundred banks has but a limited circumference for its circulation, and it the course of a very few days the depositors and note-holders might demand from such a bank a sufficient amount in space to compelit to suspend, even although it had coin in its vauite equal to one-third of its immediate liabilities. And yet I am not aware, with the anception of the banks of Louisians, that any State bank throughout the Union has been required by its charter to keep this or any other propertion of gold and silver compared with the amount of its combined circulation and deposits. What has been the consequence I ha a recent report made by the Treasury Department on the condition of the banks throughout the different States, according to returns dated nearest to January, 1857, the aggregate amount of actual specie in their vaults in \$58.349.888, of their circulation \$214,778.822, and of their deposits \$230,351,352. Thus it appears that these banks is the aggregate have considerably less than one dollar in seven of gold and silver compared with their circulation and deposits. It was palpable, therefore, that the very first pressure must drive them to suppression, and deprive the people of a convertible currency with all its department on conventible ouspersion, and deprive the people of a convertible surrexcy with all its disastrous consequences. It is truly wonderful that they should have so long

continued to preserve their oredit, when a demand for the payment of one seventh of their immediate liabili-ties would have driven them into insolvency. And this is the condition of the banks, notwithstanding that four hundred millions of gold from Cslifornia have flowed in upon us within the last eight years, and the tide still continues to flow. Indeed, such has been the extravegence of bank credits that the banks now hold antiavagance of bank credits that the banks how hold a considerably less amount of specie, either to proportion to their capital or to their circulation and deposits combined, than they did before the discovery of gold in California. While in the year 1818 their specie in proportion to their capital was more than equal to one collar for four and a half, in 1857 it does not amount to one dollar for every six dollars sad thir ty three cents of their capital. In the year 1848 the specie was equal within a very small fraction to one dollar in five of their circulation and deposits; in 1857 it is not equal to one dollar in seven and a half of their circulation.

circulation and deposits

From the statement it is easy to account for our financial history for the last forty years. It has been a history of extravagant expansions in the business of a history of extravagant expansions in the business of the country, followed by ruinous contractions. At successive intervals the best and most enterprising men-have been tempted to their ruin by successive bank leans of mere paper credi, exciting them to extrava-gant importations of foreign goods, wild speculations, and ruinous and demoralizing stock gambling. When the crisis arrives, as sirrive it must, the banks can ex-tend no relief to the people. In a vain struggle to re-ceen their liabilities in species they are compelled to com their liabilities in specie they are compelled to contract their loans and their leaves; and at last, it the hour of distress, when their assistance is most need ed, they and their debtors together sink into insol

rency. It is this paper system of extravagant expansion raising the nominal price of every article far beyond its real value, when compared with the cost of similar his real value, when compared with the cost of similar articles in countries whose circulation is wisely regulated, which has prevented as from competing in our own markets with foreign manufacturers, has produced extravagant importations, and has counteracted the effect of the large incidental protection afforded to our domestic manufactures by the present revenue tariff. But for this the branches of our manufactures composed of taw materials, the production of our own

country—such as cotton, iron and woolen fabrice—would not only have acquired almost exclusive possession of the home market, but would have created for themselves a foreign market throughout the world Deplorable, however, as may be our present financial concition, we may yet isdulge in bright hopes for the fature. No other nation has ever existed which could have endured such violent expansions and contractions of paper credits without lasting injury; yet the broyancy of youth, the energies of our pupulation, and the spirit which never qualls before difficulties, will enable us soon to recover from our present financial embarrassments, and may even occasion us speedily to forget the lessors which they have taught. In the mean time it is the duty of the Government, by all proper means within its power, to sid it alleviating the sufferings of the positio occasioned by the suspension of the banks, and to provide against a viating the sufferings of the processioned by the suspension of the banks, and to provide against a recurrence of the same calamity. Unfortunately, in either aspect of the case, it can so but little. Thanks to the Independent Tressury, the Sovernment has not suspended payment, as it was compelled to do by the failure of the banks in 1837. It will continue to discharge its liabilities to the people in gold and silver. Its disbursements in coin will pass into circulation, and materially assist in restoring a sound currency. From its high credit, should we be compelled to make a temporary loan, it can be effected on advantageous terms. This, however, shall, if possible, be avoided; but, if not, then the amount shall be limited to the lowest practice sum.

I have, therefore, determined that while no useful I have, therefore, determined that while no useful Government works already in progress shall be suspended new works, not already commenced, will be persponed, if this can be done without injury to the country. These necessary for its defines shall proceed as though there had been no crisis in our mone-

tary affairs.

Sut the Federal Government cannot do much to provide against a recurrence of existing evils. Even if insurmountable constitutional objections did not exist against the creation of a National Bank, this would have been expensive as a pair. The history grainst the creation of the United States abandantly of the last Bank of the United States abandantly proves the rrith of this ascertion. Such a back could not, if it would, regulate the issues and credits of fourteen hundred State banks in such a manner as to fourteen numered State oans, in such a mainer as to prevent the ruinous expansions and contractions in our extremely which afflicted the country throughout the existence of the late bank, or secure us against future supermitors. In 1825 an effort was made by the Bank of England to curtail the issues of the country banks of Legishid to curtain the issues in the Camby Salas, under the most favorable circumstances. The paper currency had been expanded to a ruinous extent, and the Bank put forth all its power to contract it in order to reduce prices and restore the equilibrium of the foreign exchanges. It accordingly commenced a syshope that the joint stock and private banks of the kingdom would be compelled to follow its example. It found, however, that as it contracted they expanded, ard at the end of the process, to employ the language of a very high official authority, "whatever reduction of the paper circulation was effected by the Bank of England in 1825) was more than made up by the lesues of the country banks."

But a Bank of the United States would not, if it

could, restrain the issues and loans of the State banks, because its duty as a regulator of the currency must often be in direct conflict with the immediate interest often be in direct conflict with the immediate interest of its stockholders. If we expect one agent to restrain or control another their interests must, at least in some degree, be antagonistic. But the Directors of a Bank of the United States would feel the same interest and the same inclination with the Directors of the State banks to expand the currency, to accommodate their favorites and friends with loans, and to declare large dividends. Such has been our experience is regard to the last bank.

dividends. Such has been our experience is regard to the last bank.

After all, we must mainly rely upon the patriotism and wisdom of the States for the prevention and rearess of the evil. If they will afford us a real specie basis for our paper circulation by increasing the de nomination of bank notes, first to twenty and afterward to fifty dollars; if they will require that the banks shall at all times keep on hand at least one dollar in gold and silver for every three dollars of their circulation and deposits; and if they will provide by a self-executing enactment, which nothing can arrest, that the moment they suspend they shall go into liquidation. I believe that such provisions, with a weekly publication by each back of a statement of its condition, would go far to secure us against future suspensions of specie payments.

Congress, in my opinion, passess the power to pass a uniform bankrupt law applicable to all banking institutions throughout the United States, and I strongly recommend its exercise. This would make it their reversible organic law of each bank's existence, that a suspersion of specie payments shall produce its civil death. The instinct of self-preservation would then compel it to perform its duties in such a manner as to escape its penalty and preserve its life.

The existence of banks and the circulation of bank

compel it to perform its duties in such a manner as to escape its penalty and preserve its life.

The existence of banks and the circulation of bank paper are so identified with the habits of our people that they cannot at this day, be suddenly abolished without much immediate injury to the country. If we could confine them to their appropriate sphere, and prevent them from administering to the spirit of wild and reckless speculation by entravagant loans and issues, they might be continued with advantage to the public.

But this I say, after long and much reflection: It

have been happily terminated by the appointment of British Minister to this country, who has been corally received.

White it is greatly to the interest, as I am convinced

white it is greatly to the interest, as I am convinced it is the sircere desire, of the Governments and people of the two countries to be on terms of intimate friendship with each other, it has been our misfortune almost always to have had some irritating, if not dangerous, outstanding question with Great Britain.

Since the origin of the Government we have been employed in regotiating treaties with that power, and afterward in discussing their true intent and meaning. In this respect, the convention of April 19, 1850, commonly called the Clayton and Bulwer treaty, has been the most unfortunate of all; because the two Governments place directly opposite and contradictory constructions upon its first and most important article.

While, in the United States, we believe that this treaty would place both powers upon an exact equality by the stepanation that neither will ever "occupy, or "fortify, or colonize, or assume or exercise any domin" ion over any part of Central America, it is contended by the British Government that the true construction of this language has left them in the rightful presession of all that portion of Central America which was in their occupancy at the date of the treaty; in fact, that the treaty is a virtual recognition on the part of the United States of the right of Great Britain, either as owner or protector, to the whole extensive coast of Central America, sweeping round from the Ric Hondo to the port and harbor of San Juan de Nicaragua, together with the adjacent Bay Islands, except the comparatively small portion of this between the Sarstoon and Cape Honduras. According to their construction, the treaty does no more than simply prohibit them from extending their possessions

tween the Sarstoon and Cape Honduras. According to their construction, the treaty does no more than simply prohibit them from extending their possessions in Central America beyond the present limits.

It is not too much to assert that if in the United States the treaty had been considered susceptible of such a construction, it never would have been negotiated under the suthority of the President, nor would it have received the approbation of the Senste. The universal conviction in the United States was that when our Government consented to violate its traditional and time-honored policy and to stipulate with a when our Government consented to violate its tradi-tions and time-honored policy, and to atiquiate with a foreign government never to occupy or arquire terri-tory in the Central American portion of our own con-tinent, the consideration for this sacisfice was that Great Britain should, in this respect at least, be piaced in the same position with ourselves. While we have no right to doubt the eincerity of the British Govern-ment in their construction of the treaty, it is at the same time my deliberate conviction that this construc-tion is in opposition both to its letter and spirit. Under the late Administration negotiations were insti-

Under the late Administration negotiations were instituted between the two Governments for the purpose, it
possible, of removing these difficulties; and a treaty
having this leudable object in view was signed at London on the 17th October 1856, and was submitted by the
President to the Senate on the following 10th of December. Whether this treaty, either in its original
or amended form, would have accomplished the object
intended without giving birth to new and embarraseing complications between the two Governments, may
perhape be well questioned. Certain it is, however,
it was rendered much less objectionable by the differett amedments made to it by the Senate. The treaty,
as amended, was ratified by me on the 12th March
1857, and was transmitted to London for ratification
by the British Government. That Government ex-1857, and was transmitted to London for ratification by the British Government. That Government expressed its willingness to concur in all the amendments made by the Senate, with the single exception of the clause relating to Rustan and the other islands in the Bay of Honduras. The article in the original treaty, as submitted to the Senate, after reciting that these fallends and their inhabitunts, "having been by a Confidence of August 18566. vention bearing date the 27th day of August, 1856 between her Britannic Majesty and the Republic of Honduras, constituted and declared a free territor under the severighty of the said Republic of H. m. durse," stipulated that "the two contrasting parties do hereby mutually engage to recognize and respect in all future time the independence and rights of the

eals free territory as a part of the Kepy bile of Hon-

Con an eminimation of this convention by Great Britain and Henduras of the 27th August, \$2.56. It was found that, while declaring the Bay Island: he "a free territory under the sovereignty of the Ke" public of Henduras," it deprived that Republic of rights without which its covereignty over them occuld searcely be said to exist. It divided them from the remainder of Henduras, and gave to their inhabitants remainder of Honduras, and gave to their inhabitants a separate government of their own, with legislative, executive, and judicial officers elected by themselves. It deprived the Government of Honduras of the taxing power in every form, and exempted the people of the irlands from the performance of military duty except for their own exclusive defense. It also prohibited that Republic from eracting fortifications upon them for their protection—thus leaving them open to invasion from any quarter; and, finally, it provided "that Savery shall not at any time hereafter be permitted to "exist therein."

exist therein.' Had Honduras ratified this convention, she would Had Honduras ratified this convention, she would have ratified the establishment of a State substantially independent within her own limits, and a State at all times subject to British influence and confrol. Moreover, had the United States ratified the treaty with Great Britain in its original form, we should have been bound "to recognize and respect in all future time" there stipulations to the prejudice of Honduras. Being in direct opposition to the spiritand measing of the Clayton and Bulwer treaty as understood in the United States, the Senate rejected the entire clause, and substituted in its stead a simple recognition of the recognize in its stead a simple recognition of the roveering right of Honduras to these Islands in the follower language: "The two contracting parties do hereby mutually engage to recognize and respect the islands of Runtan, Boraco, Utila Barbaretta, "Helena and Morat, situate in the Bay of Honduras, as and off the coast of the Republic of Honduras, as and off the coast of the Republic of Honduras, as under the sovereignty and as part of the said Republic e of Horduras.

"He of Horduras."

Great Britsin rejected this amendment, assigning as the only reason, that the ratifications of the Convention of the 27th August, 1856, between her and Honduras, had not been "exchanged, owing to the hesition of that Government." Had this been done, it is stated that "her Majesty's Government would have had little difficulty in agreeing to the medification proposed by the Senate, which then would have Lac in effect the same signification as the original wording." Whether this would have been the effect; whether the more circumstance of the exchange of the "wording." Whether this would have been the effect; whether the more circumstance of the exchange of the ratifications of the British convention with Honduras prior in point of time to the rat fication of our treaty with Great Britain would, "in effect," have had "the "same signification as the original wording" and thus have nultified the amendment of the Senate, may well be doubted. It is, perhaps, fortunate that the question has rever arisen.

The British Government, immediately after rejecting the treaty as amended proposed to enter into a new

The British Government, immediately after rejecting the treaty as amerded proposed to enter into a new treaty with the United States, similar in all respects to the treaty which they had just refused to ratify, if the United States would consent to add to the Senate's clear and unqualified recognition of the severeignty of Honduras over the Bay Islands the following conditional stipulation: "Whenever and so "soon as the Republic of Honduras shall have conficulded and ratified a treaty with Great Britain, by which Great Britain shall have ceded, and the Republic of Honduras shall have eccented the said public of Horduras shall have accepted the said Islands, subject to the provisions and conditions

"contained in such treaty."
This proposition was, of course, rejected. After
the Senate had retused to recognize the British convention with Honduras of the 27th August, 1856, with full knowledge of its contents, it was impossible for me, necessarily ignorant of "the provisions and conditions" which might be contained in a fature con vention between the same parties, to sanction them in

The fact is, that when two nations like Great Britain and the United States, mutually desirous as they are, and I trust ever may be, of maintaining the most friendly relations with each other, have unfortunately concluded a treaty which they understand in seases directly opposite, the wisset course is to abrogate such a treaty by nutual consent, and to commence anew Had this been done promptly, all difficulties in Central America would most probably ere this have been adjusted to the ratisfaction of both parties. The time spent in discussing the meaning of the Clayton and Bulwer treaty would have been devoted to this praise-worthy purpose, and the task would have been the more easily accomplished because the interest of the countries in Central America is identical, being confined to securing safe transits over all the routes across the lathmus. dvance.

The fact is, that when two nations like Great Britain

the Isthuus.

White entertaining these sentiments, I shall never thelese not refuse to contribute to any reasonable adjustment of the Central American questions which is not practically inconsistent with the American interpretation of the treaty. Overtures for this purpose have been recently made by the British Government in a frierdly spirit, which I cordially reciprocate; but whether this recewed effort will result in success I am not yet prepared to express an opinion. A brisf period will determine.

will determine.

With France our ancient relations of frientship still continue to exist. The French Government have still continue to exist. The French Government have n several recent instances which need not be enu-merated, evinced a spirit of good will and kindness toward our country which I heartily reciprocate. It is, notwithstanding, much to be regretted that two nations whose productions are of such a character as to invite the most extensive exchanges and freest com-mercial it trecurses should continue to enforce ancient and obsolete restrictions of trade against each other.

their vessels laden with their national productions into the ports of the United States upon the same terms with our own versels, provided they would reciprocate to us similar advantages. This act confined the reciprocity to the productions of the respective foreign nations who might enter into the proposed arrangement with the United States. The act of May 24, 1828, removed this restriction, and offsted a similar reciprocity to all such vessels without reference to the origin of their cargoes. Upon these principles, our commercial treaties and arrangements have been founded, except in France; and let us hope that this exception may not long exist.

Our relations with Russia remain, as they have ever been, on the most friendly footing. The present Emercipe of the

Our relations with Russia remain as the present Emperor, as well as his predecessors, have never failed, when the eccasion offered, to manifest their good will to our country; and their friendship has always been highly appreciated by the Government and people of United States.

With all other European Governments, except that of With all other European Governments, except that of Spais, our relations are as peaceful as we could desire. I regret to say that no progress whatever his been made, since the adjournment of Congress, toward the settlement of any of the numerous claims of our citizens against the Spanish Government. Besides, the outrage committed on our flag by the Spanish warfigate Ferrolana on the high seas, off the coast of Cuba, in March, 1855, by firing into the American mail steamer El Dorado, and detaining and searching her, remains unacknowledged and unredressed. The general tone and temper of the Spanish Government toward that of the United States are much to be respected.

Our present Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Madrid has asked to be recalled; and it is my purpose to send out a new Minister to Spain, with special instructions on all questions passing between the two Governments, and with a determination to have them speedily and amically adjusted if this is possible. In the mean time, whenever our Mirister urges the just claims of our citizens on the notice of the Spanish Government, he is met with the objection that Congress have never made the appropriation recommended by President Polk in his annual message of December, 1842, "to be paid to the Spanish Government for the purpose of distribution." among the claimants in the Amistad case." A sinilar recommendation was made by my immediate predecessor in his mersage of December, 1855; and eatiely concurring with both in the opinion that this indemnity is justly due under the treaty with Spain of the 27th of October, 1755, I carnestly recommend such an appropriation to the favorable consideration of Congress. Our present Envoy Extraordinary and Minister

the 5 th of October, 1:50, 1 carnesty recommend such an appropriation to the favorable consideration of Corgress.

A treaty of friendship and commerce was concluded at Constantinople on the 13th December, 1856, between the United States and Persia, the ratifications of which were exchanged at Constantinople on the 13th June, 1857, and the treaty was proclaimed by the President on the 18th August, 1857. This treaty, it is believed, will prove beneficial to American commerce. The Shah has manifested an earnest disposition to cultivate friendly relations with our country, and has expressed a strong wish that we should be represented at Teberan by a minister planipotentiary; and I recommend that an appropriation be made for this purpose.

Recent occurrences in China have been unfavorable to a revision of the treaty with that Empire of the 34 July, 1844, with a view to the accurity and extension of our commerce. The 24th article of this treaty stipulated for a revision of it, in case experience should prove this to be requisite; "in which case the two "Governments will, at the expiration of twelve years without the date of said convention, treat amicably contrained the same, by means of suitable persons appointed to conduct such pegoliations." These twelve years expired on the 34 July, 1856, but long before that period it was assertained that important charges in the treaty were nacees arry, and several country were made by the Commissioner of the United States to effect these changes. Another effort was about to be made for the same pur pore by our Commissioner, in conjunction with the

Ministers of England and Starce, but this was suppended by the occurrence of hostlittles in the Cantom River between Great Britain and the Chinese Empire. These hestilities have necessarily interrupted the trade of all rations with Carton, which is now in a state of blocked. blockade, and have eccasioned a serious lose of the blockade, and have eccasioned a serious lose of the dependent of the desire and property. Meanwhile the insurrection within the English esgainst the existing Imperial dynasty still continues, and it is difficult to anticipate what will be the

Under these circumstances, I have deemed it advisable to appoint A distinguished civizen of Fennsylvania Envoy Entraoretizary and Minister Plenipotentiary to proceed to China, and to avail himself of any opportunities which may offer to effect changes in the existing treaty favorable to American commerce. He left the United States for the place of his destination in July last in the war-steamer Minnesota. Special Ministers to Chi na have also been appointed by the Governments of Great Britain and France.

While our m inister has been instructed to occupy a neutral position in reference to the existing heatilities. Under these circumstances, I have deemed it ad ris-

While cur m inister has been instructed to occupy a neutral position in reference to the existing heathities at Canton, he will cordially occuperate with the British and French Minis ters in all peaceful measures to secure by treaty stip ulations those just concessions to expect, and which the nations of the world have a right to expect, and which China cannot long be permitted to winhtedd. From a restrances received, I entertain no doubt that the three Ministers will act in harmonious concert to obtain a similar commercial treaties for each of the powers they represent.

We cannot fail to feel a deep interest in all that concerns the welfare of the in sependent Republics on our own continent, as well as of the Empire of Brazil.

Our difficulties with New Scanada, which a chort time since bore so threatening an apport, are, it is to

cents the welfare of the Empire of Brazil.

Our difficulties with New Seasada, which a close time since hore so it reatening an aspect, are, it is to be hoped, in a fair train of extilement, in a manner just and honorable to both parties.

The Isthmus of Certral America, including that of Panama, is the great highway firthween the Atlantic and Pacific, over which a large portion of the commerce of the world is destined to pass. The United States are more deeply interested than any other nation in preserving the freedom and security of all the communications across this isthmus. His our duty, therefore, to take care that they shall not be interrupted either by invasions from our country or by want between, the independent States of Central America.

Ender our treaty with New-Granada, of the 12th of December 1846, we are bound to guarantee the neatrality of the Isthmus of Panama, through which the Panama Railroad passes, "as well as the rights of "sovereignty and property which New-Granada has and possesses over the said territory." Tais obligation is founded upon equivalents granted by the treaty to the Government and people of the United States. Under these circumstances, I recommend to Congress the parenge of an act authorizing the President, in case of recessity, to employ the land and naval forces of the United States to carry into effect this guarantee of neutrality and protection. I also recommend similar legislation for the security of any other route across the Isthmus in which we may acquire an interest by treaty.

With the independent republics on this continent it is both our duty and our interest to cultivate the most friendly relations. We can never feel indifferent to their fate, and must always rejoice in their prosperity. Unfortunately, both for them and for us, our examples and advice have lost much of their influence in consequence of the lawless expeditions which have been fitted out against some of them within the limits of our

Infortunately, both for them and for us, our examples and advice have lost much of their influence in obusequence of the lawless expeditions which have been fitted out against some of them within the limits of our steady material progress, or impair our character as a nation, then the toleration of such enterprises in violation of the law of nations.

It is one of the first and highest duties of any independent State, in its relations with the members of the creat family of nations.

pendent state, in its relations with the members of the great family of nations, to restrain its people from acts of hostile aggression against their citizens or subjects. The most entrent writers on public law do not hesi-tate to denounce such hostile acts as robbery and mur-

tate to denounce such hostile acts as robbery and murder.

Weak and feeble States, like those of Central America, may not feel themselves able to assert and vindicate their rights. The case would be far different if expeditions were set on foot within our own territories to make private war against a powerful nation. If such expeditions were fitted out from abroad against any portion of our own country, to burn down our cities, murder and plunder our people, and usurp our Government, we should call any power on earth to the strictest account for not preventing such enormities.

Ever since the Administration of General Washington, acts of Congress have been in force to punish severely the crime of setting on foot a military supedition within the limits of the United States to proceed from theree against a nation or State with whom we are at peace. The present neutrality act of April 20, 1818, is but little more than a collection of previously laws. Under this act the President is empowered to employ the land and naval forces and the militia. "for "the purpose of preventing the carrying on of any "such expedition or enterprise from the territories and "jurisdiction of the United States," and the Collectors of Custom; are authorized and required to detain any vessel in port when there is reason to believe ahe is about to take part in such lawless exterprises.

When it was first rendered probable that an attemportal

about to take part in such lawless enterprises.

When it was first rendered probable that an attemp-would be made to get up another unlawful expedition against Nearsqua, the Secretary of State issued instructions to the Marshals and District-Attorneys, which were directed by the Secretaries of War and the Navy to the appropriate Army and Navy officers, requiring them to be vigilant, and to use their best exertions in carrying into effect the provisions of the act of 1818. Notwithstanding these precautions, the expedition has escaped from our shores. Such enterprises can do no pessible good to the country, but have already inflicted much injury both on its interests and its character. character.

They have prevented peaceful emigration from the United States to the States of Central America, which Cuild rot fail to prove highly beneficial to all the par-ties concerned. In a pecuniary point of view sione, and closing of the Transit Route by the San Juan

ure and closing of the Transit Route by the San Juan between the two ocears.

The leader of the rocent expedition was arrested at New Orleans, but was discharged on giving ball for his appearance in the insufficient sum of \$2,000.

I commend the whole subject to the serious attention of Congress, believing that our duty and our interest, as well as our national character, require that we should adopt such measures as will be effectual in retitabing our citizens from committing such outgrasses.

I regret to inform you that the President of Para-I regret to inform you that the President of Paragnay has refused to ratify the treaty between the
United States and that State as amended by the
Senate, the signature of which was mentioned in the
Message of my predecessor to Congress at the opening
of its Session in December, 1853. The reasons assigned for this refusal will appear in the correspondence herewith submitted.

It being desirable to ascertain the fitness of the river
La Plata and its tributaries for navigation by steam,
the United States steamer Water Witch was sent
thither for that purpose in 1853. This enterprise was

La Plata and its tributaries for inavigation by resemble the United States steamer Water Witch was sent thither for that purpose in 1853. This enterprise was successfully carried on until February, 1855, when, while in the peaceful prosecution of her voyage up the Parana river, the steamer was fired upon by a Paraguayan fort. The fire was returned; but as the Water Witch was of small force, and not designed for offensive operations, she retired from the condict. The pretext upon which the attack was made was decree of the Precident of Paraguay of October, 1854, prehibiting foreign vessels-of-war from navigating the rivers of that State. As Paraguay, however, was the owner of but one bank of the river of that name, the other belonging to Corrientes, a State of the Argentine Confederation, the right of its Government to expect that such a decree would be obeyed cannot be acknowledged. But the Water Witch was not, properly speaking, a vessel-of war. She was a small steamer engaged in a scientific enterprise intended for the advantage of commercial States generally. Under these circumstances, it am constrained to consider the attack upon her as unjustifiable, and as calling for satisfaction from the Paranatal contents. justifiable, and as calling for satisfaction from the Par-

guayan Government. Citizens of the United States, also, who were established in business in Paraguay, have had their property seized and taken from them, and have otherwise been treated by the authorities in an losulting and arbitrary.

hanner, which requires radress.

A demand for these purposes will be made in a farm but conciliatory spirit. This will the more propably be granted if the Executive shall have authority to use other means in the event of a refusal. This is accordingly to the concentration of the co

other means in the event of a refusal. Thus is accordingly recommended.
It is unner essary to state in detail the alarming condition of the Territory of Kansas at the time of my inauguration. The opposing parties then stood in hostile array against each other, and any accident might take relighted the finames of civil war. Besides, at this critical moment Kansas was left without a Governor by the resignation of Gov. Gesty.

On the 19th of February previous, the Territorial Legi-lature had passed a law providing for the election of Delegates on the third Monday of June to a. Convention to meet on the first Monday of September:

for the purpose of framing a Constitution preparates y b, a comission into the Union. This law was in the main fair and just; and it is to be regretted that all b'es qualified electors had not registered themselves s.ad

voted under its provisions.

At the time of the election for delegates, an extensive organization existed in the Territory, whose sive organization existed in the part down the lawavowed object it was, if need be, to put down the law-, ful Government by force, and to establish a Govern-, ment of their own under the so-called Topekra Com Ai-intion. The persons attached to this revolutionary organization abstained from taking any part in the

The act of the Territorial Legislaty's had orelated to which night be framed by the Constitution which night be framed by the Convention; and in the excited state of public feeling throughout Kanass an apprehension extensively provailed that a design